

# MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-FIRST SESSION

OF THE

JUDSON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE

FRIENDSHIP CHURCH,

September 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th, 1883.

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## OFFICERS:

J. J. ANDREWS, MODERATOR, Guntown, Miss.

J. M. COOK, CLERK, Mooresville, Miss.

C. A. MARSHALL, TREASURER, Bigby Fork, Miss.

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TUPELO, MISS.

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## MINUTES.

The Thirty-first Annual Session of the Judson Baptist Association convened with the Friendship Church, on Thursday, Sept. 6th, 1883. Eld. D. J. Austin, who was appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon, and also Eld. A. W. Sandlin, both being absent, the Moderator, Eld. Andrews, called the Association to order and informed them of this fact, when it was moved that Eld. J. T. Pitts, of the Chickasaw Association, be appointed to preach the sermon. The motion prevailed unanimously, and Eld. Pitts came forward and preached from 23d Psalm and 4th verse, "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, &c.," after which one hour was given for refreshments.

At 2 P. M. the Association reassembled at the arbor, the former Moderator in the chair—read 13th chapter of 2d Corinthians. Joined in prayer, led by Eld. J. C. Gillington.

The letters from the churches comprising the Association were then called for, and read in regular order by Eld. W. L. Pulley and Bro. H. W. Waldrop, and contents noted.

Petitionary letters were then called for, when a letter was presented by Eld. W. L. Pulley from Judson church, Lamar county, Ala., asking admittance into our body. There being no delegates from said church, the letter was, by motion, laid on the table for further action of this body at the next session.

The Association then proceeded to a regular organization, the Moderator appointing Elds. Pitts, of the Chickasaw Association, and Whitfield, of Clinton, as tellers, &c. The election resulted in the choice of Eld. J. J. Andrews, Moderator; J. M. Cook, Clerk, and C. A. Marshall, Treasurer.

The Moderator elect made a few appropriate remarks, by way of returning his thanks to the body for their confidence and regard, and then appointed the following committees: Arrangements—Brethren Armstrong, Gillington and Sandlin. Devotion—Brethren D. A. Beeks, H. M. Cole and A. J. Doty, together with the Deacons of Friendship church. Adjourned until half-past 8 o'clock to-morrow morning. Prayer by the Moderator.

### FRIDAY MORNING.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator read 12th chapter of Romans. Joined in prayer, led by Eld. A. B. Smith.

Read and adopted the minutes of yesterday. Then called for report of committee on arrangements. Report received, adopted and committee discharged. The committee on devotion report that Eld. B. H. Whitfield preach at 11 a. m., and Eld. A. W. Sandlin at 2 p. m. Then called for correspondence. Eld. B. H. Whitfield, present, was, by motion, received as a correspondent of the Foreign Mission Board. Eld. T. J. Wan was received as representative of the State Mission Board. Eld. J. Pitts was recognized as correspondent from the Chickasaw Association. Brother Sisk, present from Bear Creek Association, was received as correspondent from that body. The following committees were then appointed:

Foreign Missions—Elds. J. C. Gillington, A. B. Smith and G. J. G. Franklin.

Home Missions—Elds. W. L. Pulley and J. D. Barton, and Bro. A. J. Doty.

Ministerial Education—Brethren J. R. Edmonds and S. W. Stokes, and Eld. J. J. Rutledge.

Documents—Elds. A. W. Sandlin and T. M. Merchant, and Bro. J. A. Williams.

Sunday Schools—G. A. P. Johnson, S. M. McGee and Eld. R. O. Beene.

State Missions—Elds. J. D. Barton, W. L. Pulley and A. W. Sandlin.

Intemperance—J. M. Cook, J. M. Armstrong and S. H. Turner.

Finance—J. M. Smith, J. M. Williams and D. A. Beeks.

Schools and Colleges—Eld. W. L. Pulley and J. R. Edmonds and H. C. Partlow.

Obituaries—C. A. Marshall, J. M. Armstrong and J. M. Cook.

Then proceeded to appoint correspondents, as follows:

To Aberdeen Association—Elds. W. L. Pulley, J. J. Andrews, A. W. Sandlin and A. B. Smith, and Brethren W. H. Ware, W. J. Taylor, A. J. Doty, W. Murff, J. L. Butler and T. H. Pope.

To Chickasaw Association—Elds. J. J. Andrews and B. A. Smith.

To Tishomingo Association—S. M. McGee and S. W. Stokes.

To Tippah Association—Elds. J. J. Andrews, J. D. Barton and A. B. Smith, and H. M. Cole and W. B. Hampton.

To Bear Creek Association—Elds. T. M. Merchant and W. L. Pulley.

To State Convention—Eld. J. J. Andrews and Brethren W. S. Banks, J. M. Armstrong and W. J. Taylor.

To Southern Baptist Convention—Eld. J. J. Andrews.

### Report on Home Missions.

Reports being called for, the report on Home or Domestic Missions was submitted by Eld. Pulley, which was advocated by several brethren and adopted, as follows:

Your committee on Home Missions report that there is great destitution in the southeastern boundary of our Association, sufficient to keep two active ministers employed all their time; also a vast amount of destitution in various parts of our State. Brethren, it is our imperative duty as Christians to cultivate the field, as it is already white unto harvest. Who will thrust in the sickle? May God help us to do our whole duty.

W. L. PULLEY,  
J. D. BARTON,  
A. J. DOTY, } Committee.

The report on Foreign Missions was submitted by Eld. J. C. Gillingtine and made the special order for half-past 2 o'clock p. m.

Eld. Pulley moved to suspend the regular order of business and appoint the place for the next session of the Association, which prevailed. The church at Tupelo was first put in nomination by Bro. J. R. Edmonds. Bro. Johnson moved to strike out Tupelo and insert Uclatubba as an amendment. The discussion on the amendment was quite animating, but finally prevailed, and Uclatubba church, three miles west of Saltville, succeeded in getting the next session of this body. Eld. A. J. Moore was appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon, and Eld. J. Gillingtine alternate. It being near 11 o'clock, the Association adjourned till 1:30 p. m. At 11 o'clock the Association repaired to the stand and Eld. White-



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field preached to a large and well ordered congregation from Matthew, 17th ch., 18-19 vs. After which a sumptuous repast was spread on a long table, prepared for the purpose by the hospitable citizens around Friendship, and all invited to partake, and we think ample justice was done the occasion.

#### EVENING SESSION.

The Association met at 1:30 o'clock. Joined in prayer, led by Eld. T. J. Wan. Report on Foreign Missions was resumed. The report was read and warmly advocated by Eld. Whitfield and others, and the Association contributed in cash to Foreign Missions \$9 95, Zion church \$3 50, Saltillo \$1. The report was adopted as follows:

#### Report on Foreign Missions

Your committee on Foreign Missions report, that the Lord Jesus expects and commands us to give the gospel to the whole world; that according to our best information there are at this time about eight hundred millions of souls utterly destitute of the gospel; that we believe we ought to do our best to give these people the word of life; that we approve the effort of the Foreign Mission Board to raise, this year, \$100,000 for this work. We believe that the Baptists of Mississippi can and, in the fear of God, ought to try to raise the \$8,000 asked of them as a part of this sum, and we request the pastors of churches in this Association to preach upon the subject of Foreign Missions, and do their best in their own way to help on this work. It is our prayer that God would put it into the hearts of all his people to help. We also recommend that some one be chosen to look after the Foreign Mission in this Association. Respectfully,

J. C. GILLINGTINE, G. J. G. FRANKLIN, A. B. SMITH, Committee.

Eld. J. C. Gillingtine was appointed to look after and advocate the Foreign Mission interest in the bounds of this Association. At this point the devotional committee report that Eld. Merchant preach to-night.

#### Report on Intemperance

The report was warmly advocated by Eld. T. J. Wan and adopted as follows:

What shall we say, what can we say, that will awaken our brethren to a true consideration of this worst of all evils. Brethren, it is a fact which we gather from reliable statistical reports, that the liquor traffic amounts annually to the enormous sum of one billion, four hundred and eighty three millions, four hundred and eighty-one thousand, eight hundred and sixty-six dollars, which is worse than thrown away. The liquor dealers have, in a great measure, the control of our elections. And further, the annual drink bills of our beloved country is over four times the amount in value of all the church property owned by all denominations in the United States; and remember that every eight minutes of time one soul falls into a drunkard's grave, and there is always one ready to take his place. So the dreadful procession is kept full. Very dear brethren, is it not time for us to awake from our lethargy on this all-absorbing subject, and endeavor with our every effort to drive this monster from our midst. Submitted.

J. M. COOK, J. M. ARMSTRONG, S. H. TURNER, Committee.

A very interesting report on Sunday Schools was submitted by Bro. G. A. P. Johnson, and was earnestly advocated by Brethren Barton, Wan, Whitfield and others, and adopted.

#### Report on Sunday Schools

We believe a well regulated Sabbath School in each church is of great importance, not only to the old, but especially to the rising generation; in this way their thoughts are directed to the word of eternal truth, and often in and through a well directed Sabbath school children are brought to a saving knowledge of the Truth as it is in Jesus. In view of these facts we recommend a Baptist Sabbath school in all of our churches.

Submitted, G. A. P. JOHNSON, R. O. BEENE, S. M. MCGEE, Committee.

It was moved by Eld. Pulley that the Association retain their present Executive Board. The motion prevailed.

It was moved by Bro. J. M. Armstrong that 9 o'clock to-morrow morning be made the special order for report of Executive Board. The motion prevailed. It was moved by Eld. Pulley that 10 o'clock to-morrow morning be made the special order for report on State Missions. The motion prevailed. Adjourned until half-past 8 to-morrow morning. Prayer and benediction by Eld. J. T. Pitts.

#### SATURDAY MORNING.

Association met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator read 3rd chapter of Hebrews. Joined in prayer, led by Eld. J. D. Barton.

It was moved that the reading of the minutes of yesterday be dispensed with until evening. Motion carried.

The report on Ministerial Education, submitted by Bro. J. R. Edmonds, elicited some very interesting speeches from Elds. Whitfield, Pitts, Gillingtine, Smith and Rutledge, and was adopted as follows:

#### Report on Ministerial Education

As the Great Teacher, in His selection of those for the promulgation of His word in its purity, chose Paul, one of the most learned men of his age, and specially learned in all the history and laws of the Jews, to combat not only the errors of his own people but the heresies of the Gentiles, to whom he was specially sent; so, it becomes the Christians of the present day to send forth workmen in His harvest, thoroughly prepared and equipped to combat the errors of ignorance, and of the many isms that he is to meet at every turn in his ministry. To do this he must be educated, and should be up to the highest possible standard. We should encourage every young man, financially, who, after due examination, shows a fitness for the calling which he assumes.

Respectfully, J. R. EDMONDS, S. W. STOKES, J. J. RUTLEDGE,  
Committee.

#### Report on State Missions.

The report on State Missions was submitted by Eld. T. J. Wan in behalf of the committee, as follows:

The State mission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention was organized ten years ago. It is appointed annually, and is composed of 56 representatives, ministers and laymen, living in different portions of the territory of the State Convention. The matter of the Board is a self-sustaining Baptist church in every city, town and neighborhood, where there is a prospect of gathering a self-sustaining church, within the bounds of the Convention. The Board has constantly aimed to promote three things: 1st, to cultivate and develop a true missionary spirit among our people; 2nd, to promote the unification of all our people, both in spirit and effort; 3rd, to secure the co-operation of all our churches and associations with the Convention, in the great work of evangelizing the State by the preaching of a pure gospel and the planting and sustaining true churches of Jesus Christ. The means adopted by the Board for securing these worthy objects have been the following: 1st, By having a corresponding secretary and general financial agent, who should go among the churches and associations, preaching and talking to them about missions, telling about the destitution in the State, giving information about the plan of the Board, &c. 2nd, By employing missionaries and sending them into destitute regions to preach the gospel, organize churches and establish Sunday schools. 3rd, By aiding feeble churches at important centres of population and influence, and to secure and support efficient pastors. 4th, By employing suitable men as evangelists to aid pastors in protracted meetings, to visit weak and declining churches and seek to revive them and make them strong and active. 5th, By employing suitable men as colporters to go among the people and distribute bibles, testaments, tracts and other religious and denominational literature. The Board has also striven to help our colored Baptist churches, by appoint-

ing one of our best and strongest men to labor exclusively among them as an evangelist. The Board has also sought to develop the activity, liberality and piety of the women of our churches, by encouraging the organization of Women's Mission Societies. Much has been done in the various items mentioned above, but very much more remains to be done in the future. The following is a brief summary of what has been done in 9 years: No. of Missionaries, 176. Days of actual service, 22,207. Number of miles traveled, 264,209. Number of sermons preached, 13,841. Church prayer meetings attended, 4,195. Families visited for religious purposes, 25,025. Persons baptised, 2,301. Received by letter, 1,389. Restored to church fellowship, 164. Churches organized, 30. Sunday schools organized, 73. Sunday school addresses delivered, 1,761. Pages of tracts distributed, 198,242. Subscribers obtained for "Record," 1,073. Houses of worship built, 10. Houses of worship repaired, 18. The Board has received from the churches \$55,015.82. Fully \$30,000 has been raised by our Missionaries for building and repairing houses of worship and parsonages. All of \$50,000 has been raised upon the various fields occupied by Missionaries and expended in meeting current expenses and for other religious purposes, and not included in the first items, so that fully \$135,015.82 have been raised either directly or indirectly by the Board and its Missionaries. Now, does not this work commend itself to the approval of this Association, and will not every church in the Association give liberally to aid the Board in carrying out the great work committed to them? We believe our Divine Master, the Lord Jesus, would be pleased to have us do this for His sake. Respectfully,

J. D. BARTON, W. L. PULLEY, A. W. SANDLIN, Committee.

### Report on Schools and Colleges.

The census of 1880 and recent investigation by the Commissioner of Education develops some startling and interesting facts. 1st, There are more than 8,000,000 of voters in the Southern States who can neither read nor write—2,000,000 colored and 1,000,000 white. What a fearful influence for evil such a mass of ignorance can exert in the moral, social and political status of the country, when directed by a governing mind. 2d, That illiteracy produces fifty times its proportional part of crime, and ten times its proportional part of pauperism. 3rd, That taking a laborer as a mere machine for the creation of material wealth, and the illiterate laborer as a means of production, the laborer with a common school education will produce 25 per cent. more annually, and a laborer with an academic education will produce 50 per cent. more, and a laborer with a collegiate education will produce 100 per cent. more annually of material wealth. Then, in whatever light we regard education, whether as a means for the preservation of government, for the suppression of crime, security of society, or as a means of increasing our nation's wealth, schools and colleges as the means and sources of education should be fostered and encouraged. We, therefore, declare it to be our duty as a religious body, in our homes, in our churches and in our Associations, to advocate and encourage a system of universal education—free alike to the rich man and the poor man, to the white man and the colored man—broad and benevolent as the teachings of the bible, bountiful as God's image to us, and free as the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ. Respectfully,

J. R. EDMONDS, W. L. PULLEY, J. D. BARTON, Committee.

The delegates from the following churches promised to raise ten cents per member for foreign missions, during the coming year, to-wit: Centre Hill, Hopewell, Friendship, Oak Grove, Oak Hill (L. C.), Evergreen, Martachie Creek, Guntown, Pleasant Hill, Poplar Springs, Camp Creek, Richmond, Tupelo, Mt. Gilead, New Prospect (U. C.), Birmingham, Uclatubba, Pleasant Valley, Zion, Mt. Vernon, Mt. Pleasant. The following to raise what they can: New Prospect (M. C.), Locust Hill, Pilgrims' Rest, Saltillo, Oak Hill (P. C.).

The above should have been added to report on Foreign Missions.

CLERK.

Your Executive Board submit the following: That at a meeting in April last we employed Eld. W. L. Pulley as missionary in the bounds of our Association, for which we agreed to pay him \$33.33, 1/3 per month.



Brother Pulley reports 4 months and 3 days labor, which amounts to \$137.33 1-3. We have paid him as follows: From New Prospect, Monroe county, \$21 00; Judson Church, Ala., \$6 00; Camp Creek, \$12 00; 2d District Judson Association, \$1 35; Tupelo, \$4 00; Friendship, \$3 25; Man-tachie Creek, \$6 00; Richmond, 90 cts.; W. C. Thomas and R. Moore, \$5 00; J. J. Andrews, \$5 00; Hopewell, \$7 75; Total, \$72 25. We propose to co-operate with the State Mission Board, but claim the right to select our own missionary. Submitted,

J. M. Cook, Chairman Executive Board.

P. S.—You will see from the Treasurer's report that we paid Brother Pulley more as it was contributed during the session. CLERK.

Your Committee on Documents report that we find the Union of the First District will meet with the church at Evergreen on Thursday before the third Sunday in August, 1884. Bro. W. H. McKinney to preach introductory sermon, Eld. J. C. Gillentine alternate. Brethren will read essays as follows:

1. What is the duty of Deacons according to the New Testament?—J. M. Cook.
2. What are the main inviting features of Heaven?—T. M. Merchant.
3. On Church Discipline.—F. M. Gregory.
4. What are the distinguishing principles between the Baptists and other sects of the present day?—W. H. McKinney.
5. Who are the poor of the Church?—J. A. Williams.
6. On the two Covenants.—S. H. Turner.
7. On Church Communion.—J. C. Gillentine.
8. What is the Door into the Church?—J. W. Randolph.
9. On Intemperance.—J. M. Armstrong.
10. On the Perpetuity of the Church.—W. C. Thomas.
11. Will there be a future final or future general judgment.—A. J. Moore.
12. What is the duty of pastors to the churches?—W. J. Thomas.
13. What is the duty of the church to the pastor?—H. Moore.
14. On the second coming of Christ.—J. J. Rutledge.

We also find that the Union of the Second District will meet with the Pleasant Valley Church on Thursday before the fourth Sabbath in July, 1884; Elder D. J. Austin to preach introductory sermon, J. D. Barton alternate. The following brethren were appointed to write essays:

1. Who are the proper subjects for baptism?—G. A. P. Johnson.
2. On adoption.—J. K. Mothershead.
3. Can a truly converted man be lost?—J. D. Barton.
4. On the support of the ministry.—Wm. McNutt.
5. On Intemperance.—Wm. Brunson.
6. On family prayer.—S. W. Stokes.
7. The door into the visible kingdom.—D. J. Austin.
8. On the atonement.—F. M. Payne.
9. On communion.—J. J. Andrews.

Respectfully, A. W. SANDLIN, J. A. WILLIAMS, Committee.



The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That this Association request the churches composing this body to take into favorable notice Sisters Lucy and Lorraine Brown, who are pious youths, but blind, and need assistance very much. They are members of Oak Hill church. Any person desirous of contributing any thing can address W. K. Payne, Pontotoc, Miss. It will be thankfully received.

Your Committee on Obituaries report that since we last met death has invaded our ranks and taken from us some of our good members. Our much esteemed brother, C. H. Williams, died at Clinton College. In his death not only his church suffers loss, but we think the Association has suffered great loss; he was strongly impressed with a call to the ministry. Also our esteemed brother, A. L. Eaves, is gone, and in his death we can truly say that one of our best men has fallen. He was a sound and consistent Baptist, and was one of the original framers of our beloved Association. Brothers M. B. Hill and J. Hobbs, of the same church are gone. Brother S. Estes and Sister Middlebrook, of the Boguesfala church, and many within the bounds of our Association, whom we have not space to mention, have died, and most, if not all, were prominent for piety and Christian deportment. We meekly bow in submission to the will of our Heavenly Master. Submitted.

J. M. COOK, C. A. MARSHAL, J. M. ARMSTRONG, Committee.

Your Committee on Finance submits as follows: Received for Minutes, \$14 40, and paid to Treasurer. Respectfully,

J. M. SMITH, J. A. WILLIAMS, D. A. BEEKS, Committee.

P. S.—Since the above report was made I have received from Sister Copeland 10 cents, and from Boguesfala church 40 cents, which makes the Minute fund \$14 90.

CLERK.

The Treasurer reports as follows:

C. A. MARSHAL, in account with Judson Association.

Dr.		Cr.	
To am't f'm Finance Com.	\$ 44 40	By amount paid to Clerk,	\$ 44 40
“ forw'd Ex. Board,	95 35	“ “ to Bro. Pulley,	104 85
Contrib'n from congre't'n,	9 50	“ “ Rec'd Saturday,	12 90
Am't at arbor and Ass'n			
Saturday evening,	12 90	Total,	\$162 15
Total,	\$162 15	C. A. MARSHAL, Treasurer.	

The following resolutions were adopted:

1st. *Resolved*—That this Association tender their sincere thanks to the brethren of Friendship church, and to the surrounding neighborhood generally, for their very kind and generous hospitality extended to us during the entire session.

2d. *Resolved*—That the Clerk be allowed to retain \$10 00 of the Minute fund for his services.

The Association being through with business, the Moderator made some striking remarks, which will long be remembered. Then was sung

the lovely old hymn, "How Firm a Foundation," etc., and the parting hand extended; many of the brethren parting in tears. The Association adjourned to meet with Uclatubba church on Thursday before the second Sunday in September, 1884, at 11 a. m. The brethren will ever remember the kind hospitality extended to them by the Friendship church and community.

CLERK.

The following amounts were received for Minutes: Boguesfala, \$1 00; Fellowship, \$1 20; Friendship, \$3 20; New Prospect, M. C., \$2 90; Evergreen, \$1 25; Liberty, \$1 00; Unity, \$1 40; Pleasant Hill \$1 40; Richmond \$1 40; Centre Hill, \$2 00; Hopewell, \$1 80; Union Hill, 70cts.; Oak Hill, L. C., 50c.; Mantachie Creek, \$1 00; Guntown, \$1 50; Poplar Springs, \$1 40; Oak Grove, \$1 50; Judson, 60cts.; Camp Creek, 75cts.; Oak Hill, P. C., 60c.; Saltillo, \$2 75; New Prospect, U. C., \$1 75; Zion Hill, 55c.; Pilgrims' Rest, \$1 25; Mt. Gillead, 55cts.; Hebron, \$1 10; Pleasant Valley, \$1 50; Tupelo, \$1 00; Locust Hill, 50cts.; Birmingham, 60cts.; Uclatubba, \$1 60; Mt. Pleasant, \$1 15; Zion, \$1 50; Mt. Vernon, \$1 00; Bethel, \$1 00.

Very dear brethren, there is other matter that I would like to embrace in these minutes, but they are already large, and the money on hand will not justify. I find received by baptism, 264; by letter, 156; total in fellowship, 2,915—a net gain of 247. We have paid for Home Missions, \$118 00; for foreign Missions, \$14 00; for Ministerial Education, \$40 00; for State Missions, about \$30 00; not quite 7 cents per member, and yet we bear the name of the greatest missionary the world ever knew.

CLERK.

## SABBATH EXERCISES.

At an early hour Sunday a very large congregation assembled at the arbor. The stand was occupied by Eld. A. W. Sandlin, who preached from Acts I, 8, "And ye shall be witnesses unto Me, both in Jerusalem and in all Judea," etc. It was one of his heart-searching sermons, a master effort, and will long be remembered by many of his hearers.

A FRIEND TO CLERK.

The names and postoffices of the ordained ministers are as follows: J. J. Andrews, Guntown; A. B. Smith, Ellistown; D. J. Austin, Poplar Springs; J. M. Huckelby, Poplar Springs; J. D. Barton, Saltillo; A. W. Sandlin, Mooresville; W. H. McKinney, Mooresville; W. C. Thomas, Richmond and Verona; W. J. Thomas, Richmond and Verona; J. C. Gil-lingtine, Richmond and Verona; J. J. Rutledge, Eureka or Verona; T. M. Merchant, Mantachie.

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CONSTITUTION.

We, the united Baptist churches in the State of Mississippi, having been regularly dismissed by letter from the following Associations, viz: Aberdeen, Chickasaw, and Bear Creek, have united for the purpose of maintaining and keeping the Order and Rules of an Association, according to the following plan:

Art. 1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our Union, who on producing letters from their respective churches, certifying their election, shall be entitled to seats.

Art. 2. The letters from the churches are to express No. of white male and female members, No. of colored members, time of meeting, No. baptized, received by baptism, restored, dismissed by letter, excluded or dead since the last Association, the name of the pastor and postoffice.

Art. 3. The members thus chosen, and convened, shall be known as the JUDSON ASSOCIATION, who shall have no power to Lord it over God's heritage, or infringe on any of the internal rights of the churches in union, but shall be an advisory council, for the common benefit of all the churches, and the furtherance of the cause of our Redeemer. The Association shall have power to exclude any church from the Union, who may depart from the orthodox principles of the Gospel either in faith or practice. (The fundamental principles we adopt and believe, may be seen in our Abstract.)

Art. 4. Every church in the Union shall be entitled to three delegates, and one additional delegate for every hundred members above one hundred. Should any church neglect to represent herself, she shall state the reason in her letter to the next Association.

Art. 5. New churches may be admitted into this body, who petition by letter and delegates. If found to be sound in the faith, and in good order, the reception thereof to be manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand.

Art. 6. The Association shall be governed by Rules of Decorum, of their own adoption.

Art. 7. This Association shall annually elect a Moderator from among themselves, whose duty it shall be to see that the Rules of Decorum are observed, and take the voice of the Association on all questions properly brought before it. Also a Clerk shall be elected whose duty it shall be to take correct minutes of the acts of the Association.

Art. 8. No query shall be received for the consideration of the Association until the church presenting it shall have made an effort to answer it to her satisfaction and failed to do so.

Art. 9. The Association shall have a fund for the support of the same, which shall be raised by the voluntary contributions of the churches, sent by their delegates, which money shall be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer chosen by the Association, who shall be accountable to the Association for all moneys received by him as Treasurer.

Art. 10. The Association shall in all cases be governed by a majority of the members present, except in the reception and dismission of churches, which shall be unanimous.

Art. 11. This Association will correspond with other Associations as may be agreed on while in session.

Art. 12. It shall be the duty of the Association to appoint a minister to preach an Introductory Sermon, with an altercate, at each succeeding session, also the time and place for the next Association.

Art. 13. No charge will be received against any church in our Union, only when established by a sister church.

Art. 14. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any time by two-thirds of the churches composing the body.

Art. 15. Minutes to be read, adopted and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, before the Association finally adjourns.

## ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

1st. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of Faith and practice.

2d. We believe that the Scriptures teach that there is but one living and true God; that there are three persons in this one God, the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit; and that this triune God is the only object of all religious worship and adoration; and that all worship paid to anything else, in the name of God, is Idolatry and abomination in His sight.

3d. We believe that God created man holy and happy; that he sinned and fell from that condition; that by the fall he lost his original righteousness, and became both sinful and depraved, and as a natural consequence, that all his posterity, by ordinary generation, are involved in all the consequences of his fall.

4th. We believe that man, by nature, has no power to recover himself from his lost and ruined condition; and that unless God himself had provided a way of Salvation, all must have been ruined and miserable forever, because they all have sinned.

5th. We believe that God has provided a way of Salvation, and has revealed it to us in the Gospel of His Son, that this way of Salvation was adopted in the Eternal Council before the foundation of the world, according to which God saves sinners through the sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth.

6th. We believe that fallen man has nothing and can do nothing of himself to recommend him to the favorable notice of the Divine Being, and that all his hope of pardon, sanctification, justification and redemption, is derived alone through the merits of Christ.

7th. We believe that Jesus Christ the Eternal Son of God, is the only Mediator between God and man, that he first became our surety, and in the fullness of time our sacrifice, and that the only efficacious plea that He makes before the Throne in our behalf is built upon His own and all-atoning sacrifice, and perfect righteousness before God.

8th. We believe that the Holy Spirit, the third person in the adorable Trinity, is the great agent in convincing man of his lost and condemned condition; and in making the Gospel plan of mercy plain and acceptable to him.

9th. We believe that all who are sanctified by the Spirit are fully justified by the righteousness of Christ, which is in all, and upon all them that believe.

10th. We believe that all who are called to be Saints through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth shall be eternally saved.

11th. We believe that Christian churches are to be formed of believers in Christ, who give evidence of change of heart, and who have been regularly baptized.

12th. We believe that the government of the church is not left in the hands of any one man, or number of men distinct from the body; but that it is left to the whole church.

13th. We believe that the first day of the week, called the Lord's day, is sanctified or set apart for the public worship of God; and that it is the duty of Christians to abstain on that day from all unnecessary visiting, trifling conversation or labor, except so much as may be devoted to works of necessity or mercy.

14th. We believe that God has appointed the preaching of the Gospel for the edification of the Church, and the advancement of His Kingdom; that it is the duty of church members to contribute to the support of the ministry as God in his providence may give them ability.

15th. We believe that Jesus Christ has appointed two positive Institutions or Ordinances to be observed in his Church, viz.: Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that Baptism is immersion in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and that believers alone are capable of rightly receiving this ordinance; that Baptism precedes the Lord's Supper and NONE but regularly baptized ministers have any right to administer them.

16th. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust; that the just will rise to everlasting life, and the unjust to everlasting shame and contempt.

17th. Finally, we believe that the Gospel, with all its obligations, privileges and blessings, has been committed to the Church; and it is especially enjoined to make it known to every creature, while a risen and ascended Savior pledges His presence to the end of the world.

## RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened by prayer.
2. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the members present by private ballot.



Art. 3. The Moderator shall be considered the Judge of Order, but any member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal, provided that appeal is made on the same day, but at no subsequent time.

Art. 4. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as other members, but not to vote unless his vote be necessary to decide the question. If he rises to speak, he shall call on some brother to take the Chair.

Art. 5. All questions brought before the Association shall be introduced by motion, and if seconded, shall be open for discussion, unless withdrawn by the mover or his second. When a subject has been taken up and a reasonable time allowed for discussion, the Moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays, and if a call for a division be made, it shall be decided by the members rising.

Art. 6. Any member wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at the same time, who shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject or makes personal reflections.

Art. 7. No one shall speak more than once upon any subject, until all who wish to speak shall have had an opportunity, nor more than twice upon any subject without permission.

Art. 8. Every subject introduced for discussion shall be decided before another is offered, unless it be laid over by motion, with the consent of the mover and Association.

Art. 9. The names of members shall be called whenever the Association shall direct, and absentees marked. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission of the Moderator.

Art. 10. The appellation of Brother shall be used by the members in addressing each other.

Art. 11. Any member violating the Rules shall be subject to be reprov'd by the Moderator, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

Art. 12. Amendments or alterations may be made to these Rules when a majority may deem it necessary.

# STATISTICAL TABLE

CHES. 1ST DIS.

PASTORS.

POST OFFICE.

NAMES OF DELEGATES.

Boulogne	M. C. Gillington	Mooreville	A. W. Sandlin, J. M. Cook, J. Clayton	2	1	2	0	9	0	2	139	
Friendship	J. O. Brede	Saltillo	W. C. Bynum, J. J. Byas, D. T. Miller	4	15	9	5	4	0	0	86	
N Prospect	J. J. Andrews	Guntown	J. A. Williams, D. W. Compton, C. H. Loller	3	0	3	0	1	0	1	119	
Evergreen	W. T. Thomas	Bigby Fork	C. A. Marshall, J. M. Armstrong	2	13	10	0	2	0	0	88	
Liberty	J. F. Andrews	Bigby Fork	D. H. Hodge, D. M. Brown	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	88	
Unity	A. W. Sandlin	Guntown	R. Johnson, T. Barnes, A. J. Herring	1	2	0	0	6	2	0	88	
Pleasant Hill	J. J. Raulke	Tupelo	A. J. Doty, J. A. Williams, W. Reed	4	0	6	0	0	0	0	56	
Richmond	W. H. Moore	Richmond	J. Spriggs, J. J. Armstrong	1	2	6	0	0	0	0	83	
Center Hill	A. J. Moore	Richmond	H. K. Farlow, R. H. Rogers, P. B. Fowler	3	6	1	0	1	0	0	51	
Hopewell	J. C. Gillington	Burke	J. C. Gillington	4	6	0	0	2	0	1	108	
Union Hill	J. J. Raulke	Guntown	M. McDuffie, J. H. Gray, W. W. McDuffie	4	6	0	0	10	3	2	163	
Oak Hill	A. W. Sandlin	Guntown	A. S. Roberts, J. Long, W. R. McCutley	1	7	2	0	0	2	0	1	36
Oak Grove	J. C. Gillington	Guntown	T. M. Merchant, B. W. Raditt, J. W. Thornbury	2	0	0	0	21	2	2	24	
Manuel Creek	U. Gillington	Manuel Creek	Z. N. Hodges, S. H. Turner	1	25	8	0	3	2	0	117	
Rebel	T. M. Merchant	Manuel Creek	C. C. Stovall, J. R. McMillon	3	3	1	0	1	0	0	91	
Mt. Pleasant	W. F. Osborn	Manuel Creek	D. A. Beck, W. J. Taylor	2	6	3	0	0	0	0	35	
Mt. Vernon	St. C. Lawrence	Fulton	J. W. Morgan, J. G. Chilcoat, M. H. Wallace	3	2	2	1	3	0	0	48	
2d DISTRICT				1	6	3	0	2	1	0	38	
Guntown	J. J. Andrews, J. R. Bristol, J. S. Holly	J. J. Andrews, J. R. Bristol, J. S. Holly		0	0	0	0	1	0	0	20	
Poplar Springs	D. J. Austin	Poplar Springs	J. M. Smith, T. S. Kelly, G. J. G. Franklin	4	24	6	3	21	1	1	210	
Camp Creek	L. K. Burress	Corona	H. Baker, S. M. McDer, S. W. Stokes	2	4	3	0	5	0	1	99	
Oak Hill	P. C. J. T. Pitts	Burke	Joel Keeler, J. Cox, W. R. Payne	3	11	9	2	4	3	3	179	
Saltillo	J. D. Barton	Saltillo	J. D. Barton, H. M. Cole, T. H. Turner, M. Pound	2	5	9	0	1	1	0	69	
N Prospect	C. A. B. Smith	Elliotton	J. M. Smith, J. C. Smith, J. M. Kelly, G. W. Dillard	3	14	2	2	5	5	2	99	
Zion Hill	J. M. Huckleby	Elliotton	A. B. Huckleby, A. G. Randle, W. R. Corder	4	11	2	0	3	0	0	68	
Pilgrim's Rest	R. O. Boone	Macedonia	R. O. Boone, W. S. Banks, W. A. White, F. M. Payne	3	0	0	2	7	3	2	63	
Mt. Gillend	J. Smith	Burke	M. F. Win, W. R. Dunlap, J. F. Reed	3	12	12	0	2	0	0	97	
Hebron	A. B. Smith	Poplar Springs	M. Dalin, W. A. Darlin, J. D. Alexander	2	5	13	0	5	1	0	97	
Pleasant Valley		Chesterville	Henry Thompson, W. C. Ward, J. Wooley	1	0	2	0	2	0	1	50	
Tupelo	L. K. Burress	Tupelo	J. K. Edmonds	4	12	3	0	4	0	2	136	
Locust Hill	D. J. Austin	Poplar Springs	W. P. Crook, J. Reid, J. H. Kelly	1	19	4	2	9	0	2	89	
Birmingham	D. J. Austin	Birmingham	W. P. McNeil, J. F. Crenshaw	4	0	1	0	1	0	0	52	
Uelutubba	D. J. Austin	Saltillo	W. R. Hampton, G. A. P. Johnson	3	82	20	2	6	3	0	81	
Zion	J. T. Pitts	Saltillo	W. R. Gilmer, J. E. Little	3	17	3	1	8	0	1	11	

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• NAMES OF DELEGATES.

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